

Application No.: 10/776,344Docket No.: 4620-005**REMARKS**

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough review of the present application, and respectfully request reconsideration in light of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 2 and 4-20 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1 and 3 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form. Claims 2 and 4-7 have been amended to improve claim language. New claims 8-20 have been added to provide Applicants with the scope of protection to which they are believed entitled. The specification has been revised to be consistent with the amended language of claim 2. The Abstract has been amended in compliance with commonly accepted US patent practice. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

The art rejections of claims 1 and 3 are moot as the rejected claims have been cancelled.

The *35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph* rejection of claims 2 and 4-7 is believed overcome in view of the above amendments, as the rejected claims have been amended to remove all potential indefiniteness issues.

Indication of allowable subject matter of claims 2 and 4-7, as well as new claims 8-11 depending from claim 2, in the absence of applied art is believed appropriate and therefore respectfully requested.

New independent claim 12 is believed patentable over the applied references because the references do not fairly teach or suggest the claimed wastewater treatment bioreactor comprising, among other things, a second sleeve having an upper end downwardly spaced from the lower end of said first sleeve by a gap, and a **current divider** bridging said gap.

Claims 13-20 depend from claim 12, and are considered patentable at least for the reason

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advanced with respect to claim 12.

Each of the Examiner's rejections has been traversed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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